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AND VIRGINIA ADVERTISER.
(For the Country.)
Published Regularly on TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS and SATURDAYS, at Six Dollars per annum.

Best of the Love Letters.

A writer in Cassell's Magazine thinks the art of writing love letters is lost. Now-a-days we "correspond," or "exchange friendly communications," but we don't write love letters. We can't; we are too business-like for it. There is a flavor of "all complaints to be addressed to the secretary," and "Please quote this number in your reply," in our best amatory missives, and they usually acquire their distinctive character by being without a margin. We are too cynical for it; we have grown accustomed to look a sentiment in the face, much less to make any deliberate record of its existence in black and white. We are also a little too cautious. It would be horrible to become a so-called amant de la "jury." Our letters accordingly are written with an eye to the confusion of Sergeant Buffum, and precious things of course they are. The average packet of them returned now-a-days after a quarrel, or locked up after marriage, is at best but a kind of withered apple, hardly worth the trouble of preserving. A poor tale of appointment for seven or eight days, and of inquiries for missing umbrellas—age can give them no melody, and fading ink no poetry. And the worst are often those that make a pretension to tenderness. The force of weakness can no farther go than in the "documentary evidence"—sometimes cited in the breach of promise cases, as proofs of the warmth of the defendant's attachment. Welcome, thrice welcome the formal "Madam, your obedient servant" before the detestable "Ever your Lovable Dovey."

The only good modern love-letter the present writer remembers to have seen was one he wrote himself. This may seem like vanity, but it is not so. The letter was the composition of another person, a bricklayer, who having to mend a copper in a certain house, asked the writer, who happened to be at home for the holidays, whether he would mind "doing a bit of writing" for him, as it was some time since he had handled a pen. The writer assented. The bricklayer produced a sheet of foolscap from the interior of his hat. The writer, fetching a ruler from the library, covered the paper with even lines. The bricklayer, with a premonitory tap of his trowel, dictated, "Miss." The writer suggested "Stokes," but thought there was "no call to put that down." The writer suggested "Dear Miss," but the bricklayer fired up and declared he wasn't going to knuckle under like that. The writer accordingly set down "Miss" in his best round hand, with a horizontal flourish that carried the word to the end of the line. "Your treatment of me the other night," continued the bricklayer, "was too bad. The cauliflower I gave you at our last meeting was perfectly fresh, though you chose to consider it not so. I can be as proud as you. I did not pick it up after you had thrown it down." The writer suggested "thrown." The bricklayer asked him if he was certain about it. The writer gave him an assurance to that effect. The bricklayer went on, "I ask to let bygones be bygones, Mary, and I will take you to Greenwich. Why should persons keeping company have words? The lives of the longest of us soon end in the grave, and what will be your feelings there when you look back on the 18th of August?" Here the bricklayer cleared his throat.

The writer wished to know if he should go on. The bricklayer asked "how he was off for room?" and suggested that he should take a measurement. The writer said he could rule the other side, and this was done. "Come, let us be happy together," resumed the bricklayer in verse; "for where there's a there's a way." Let your heart be as light as a feather. The writer asked if this was the beginning of a letter to another person. The bricklayer said No, but his composition seemed to want a something to finish it off; perhaps the writer could think of a line or two himself? The writer meditated. The bricklayer resumed the setting of the copper.

"I dreamt," said the bricklayer, after a pause. "I dreamt—that 'ud do, if I could only recollect it." "That I dwell," suggested the writer. "That's it," said the bricklayer—
"In marble halls,
With vassals and serfs by my side,
But the only thing which pleased me no more
Was that you was to be my bride."

The verse was written. "Yours obediently" was added to it with the bricklayer's name, and the thing was done.

THE DIAMOND FIELDS.—The following is from a new contemporary, the Diamond Field, of the 27th of October:—"A capital story has just been brought in. A sweet looking Koranah girl went out on the Piel side, dipping up from the claim of a party in a bucket, and going down to the river and washing it for her own advantage. There was only one young Englishman in the party, and he saw the young English girl, although she did not belong to his own fair race. He allowed the girl to go on taking up ground from the surface and washing it. At last she laughed and threw her hands about and laughed heartily. Our friend, the Englishman, rushed over to see what the matter was, when he found that she had picked up a diamond, and a beauty too. The gentleman did the proper thing, he made her an offer on the spot. He is of first-rate family, and vows that he will introduce his wife to his family as an African princess of great distinction."

NEW STORE.
Just opened at the corner of King and St. Asaph streets, and would call the attention of housekeepers especially to our supply of PROVISIONS, Hams, Bacon, Lard, Fresh Meats, Poultry and Produce generally.
Also a large lot of CANNED FRUITS of every description in store, just received.
Those wishing a bargain in our line will do well to call on us, as we are prepared to sell cheap. Goods delivered free of charge to any part of the city.
(GHEEN & BIRCH,
148 King street.

INSURANCE.
FIRE, LIFE and MARINE INSURANCE effected in responsible companies at fair rates.—We represent the
LIVERPOOL & LONDON & GLOBE.
A most substantial and liberal company.
Assets \$20,000,000.
—HOOE, WEDDERBURN & CO.,
No. 2 Prince street.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

SIMMONS' LIVER.
The symptoms of Liver Complaint are uneasiness and pain in the side. Sometimes the pain is in the shoulder, and is mistaken for rheumatism. The stomach is affected with loss of appetite and sickness, bowels in general constipated, sometimes alternating with laxity. The head is troubled with pain, and dull, heavy sensation, considerable loss of memory, accompanied with pain in the back, and the above symptoms attend the disease, and at other times very few of them; but the liver is generally the organ most involved. Cure the Liver with
DR. SIMMONS' LIVER REGULATOR.
A preparation of roots and herbs, warranted to be strictly vegetable, and can do no injury to any one.
It has been used by hundreds, and known for the last 40 years as one of the most reliable, efficacious and harmless preparations ever offered to the suffering. Taken regularly and persistently, it is sure to cure.
Dyspepsia, headache, jaundice, costiveness, sick headache, chronic diarrhoea, affections of the bladder, camp dysentery, affections of the kidneys, nervousness, chills, diseases of the skin, impurity of the blood, melancholy, or depression of spirits, heartburn, colic, or pains in the bowels, pain in the head, fever and ague, dropsy, boils, pain in the back, &c.
Prepared only by
J. H. ZILLIN & CO.,
Druggists, Macon, Georgia.
Price \$1; by mail \$1.25. For sale by
Jan 6-ly **E. S. LEADBEATER & BRO.**

REGULATOR.
Having purchased the Drug Store on the northeast corner of King and Washington sts., for a number of years past, known as Hillburn's Drug Store, I respectfully inform the citizens of Alexandria and vicinity that I will keep constantly on hand a full and complete assortment of all articles usually found in a first class drug store.
Particular attention will be paid to the compounding of prescriptions day and night.
aug 31-ly **SAMUEL H. LUNT.**

ESTABLISHED 1792.
E. S. LEADBEATER & BRO.
DEALERS IN
PURE DRUGS AND MEDICINES,
CHEMICALS, PAINTS, OILS,
VARNISHES, GARDEN SEEDS,
FRENCH WINDING GLASS, &c., &c.,
Nos. 5 and 7 South Fairfax st.,
aug 2-ly Alexandria, Va.

COOK & CREIGHTON,
WM. F. CREIGHTON.
Wholesale and Retail Dealers in
PURE DRUGS AND CHEMICALS, PAINTS,
Varnishes and Oils,
WINDOW GLASS, PUTTY,
No. 10 King street.
Prompt attention given to orders and inquiries from the country.
mar 9-ly
SAMUEL H. JANNEY, — MAHON H. JANNEY,
JANNEY & CO.
DEALERS IN
PURE DRUGS, LEWIS' WHITE LEAD,
Paints, and Varnishes,
FRENCH WINDING GLASS & PUTTY,
No. 145 King street.
Orders and Inquiries from the country promptly attended to.
sep 23-ly

BARGAINS.
CHEAP PIANOS AND ORGANS.
I now have for sale the largest assortment of first-class Pianos ever offered in Alexandria, from the best makers, such as WM. KNABE & CO. and others. I will sell these at a great reduction from first cost on easy terms of monthly payments. I warrant them in perfect order, and will keep them in tune one year. They range in price from \$75 to \$275. Also Smith & Prince's celebrated Parlor Organs, suitable for churches.
WM. AGENT FOR
Wm. Knabe & Co.'s Unrivalled Pianos, sold at factory prices. I will furnish any pattern and price on more liberal terms than in Baltimore.—Call and see them.
ALSO
A select assortment of SHEET MUSIC, vocal and instrumental. Instruction Books for all instruments. Any piece on hand will be furnished by ordering from New York. The usual deductions allowed to schools, churches and teachers.
Violin and Guitar STRINGS, including the cheapest and the very best, with a general assortment of Violins, Guitars, Banjos, Flutes, Bows and other small musical merchandise.
I will sell all these instruments upon easy terms that will leave no reasonable cause to persons wishing to uphold Alexandria to the purchase elsewhere.
Y. BECKER,
149 King st., near Washington st.
P. S.—All kinds of Musical Instruments tuned and repaired.
jan 12-ly

EXTRA FAMILY BACON, SAUSAGE AND MINCE MEAT, &c.
10,000 lbs choice FAMILY BACON, of my own curing, consisting of Hams, Shoulders Sides and Breast Pieces.
MINCE AND SAUSAGE MEAT, prepared by myself with the greatest care.
Also choice SPICED BEEF ROUNDS, with a large supply of pure LEAF LARD expressly for family use, put up in jars, kegs and barrels, of various sizes, together with a full supply of choice WINE and LIQUORS.
For all of which, if you want to be pleased in quality and price, call on
SAM L. J. REED,
74 South Fairfax street.
dec 16

LAND IN FAIRFAX COUNTY, VA.
For sale, lease, or to cultivate on shares. Fertile, well watered, if desired—to be paid for out of crops.
244 ACRES within 24 miles of Alexandria, and about 100 acres of which are cleared. The soil is as good as any in the county, with a comfortable DWELLING thereon.
540 ACRES on the south side of the Little River Turnpike road, seven miles from Alexandria and one mile north of Springfield station, on the O. & A. M. R. R. This tract lies between the turnpike and railroad.
33 1/2 ACRES of which are in timothy.
Apply to
WM. H. IRWIN,
Jan 9-ly No. 5 S. Union st., Alex., Va.

THE LOUDON HOTEL.
LEESBURG, VA.
Will be opened for public entertainment on MONDAY, January 9, 1871.
The undersigned takes pleasure in assuring the public that this house will be conducted in the best manner. The rooms will be comfortably and neatly furnished, and the table will be kept constantly supplied with the best market food afforded.
The BAR will be supplied with the choicest WINES and LIQUORS.
He asks a liberal share of public patronage.
A. C. TRUNDLE,
Jan 6-ly Leesburg, Va.

JOHN H. PARROTT.
DEALER IN
BLANK BOOKS, WRITING AND WRAPPING PAPER, ENVELOPES, INKS, and STATIONERY GENERALLY.
Wholesale and retail. Also PAPER BAGS, FLOUR SACKS, Shipping and Printing Cards, Direction Labels, &c., &c.
jan 16-ly

AMTOMES MINCE MEAT, Sweet Cider, Layer Raisins, Prunes, Dried Peaches and Dried Apples, for sale by
J. C. MILBURN.
Jan 7

NEW GOODS AT VERY LOW PRICES.
5 bbls Demerara, P. R. and N. O. Sugars.
15 bbls Refined Sugar.
20 sacks Rio, Laguayra and Java Coffee.
15 tierces prime Western Leaf Lard.
3 tierces choice Sugar-cured Hams.
2 whole George & Jenkins' Shoulders and Breakfast Bacon.
20 boxes Adamantine, Paraffine and Sperm Candles.
10 boxes prime Factory Cheese.
10 boxes Fox's Patent Lard.
40 boxes Stourie, Babbitt's, Warfield's and other Soaps.
Prime New Orleans and P. R. Molasses and Golden Syrup, together with a full assortment of other goods making a complete assortment of CHOICE FAMILY GROCERIES.
We call attention to the fact that the above goods have all been purchased since the reduction of the tariff and decline in prices, and we are, therefore, enabled to offer them at such prices as shall amply compensate.

AMTOMES MINCE MEAT, Sweet Cider, Layer Raisins, Prunes, Dried Peaches and Dried Apples, for sale by
J. C. MILBURN.
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NEW 7-30 GOLD LOAN.
SAFE! PROFITABLE! PERMANENT!
JAY COOKE & CO.
Offer for sale at par and accrued interest the
FIRST MORTGAGE
LAND GRANT GOLD BONDS
—OF THE—
Northern Pacific Railroad Co.
These bonds are secured, first, by a First Mortgage on the Railroad itself, its rolling stock, and all equipments; second, by a First Mortgage on its entire Land Grant, being more than twenty thousand Acres of Land to each mile of Road.
The Bonds are free from United States tax; the Principal and Interest are payable in Gold—the Principal at the end of Thirty years, and the Interest Semi-annually, at the rate of SEVEN and THREE QUARTS PER CENT. per annum.
They are issued in denominations of \$100, \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000 and \$10,000.
The Trustees under the Mortgage are Messrs Jay Cooke, of Philadelphia, and J. Edgar Thomson, President of the Pennsylvania Central Railroad Company.
These Northern Pacific 7-30 Bonds will, at all times before maturity, be receivable at TEN PER CENT. PREMIUM (or 1.10) in exchange for the Company's lands at their lowest cash price.
In addition to their absolute safety, these Bonds yield an income larger, we believe, than any other first-class security. Persons holding United States 5-20's can, by converting them into Northern Pacifics, increase their yearly income one-third, and still have a perfectly reliable investment.
HOW TO GET THEM.—Your nearest Bank or Banker will supply these bonds in any desired amount, and of any needed denomination. Persons wishing to exchange stocks or other bonds for these, can do so with any of our agents, who will allow the highest current price for ALL MARKETABLE SECURITIES.
Those living in localities remote from Banks may send money, or other bonds, directly to us by express, and we will send back Northern Pacific bonds at our own risk, and without cost to the investor. For further information, pamphlets, maps, etc., call on or address the undersigned, or any of the Banks or Bankers employed to sell this loan.
FIRST NATIONAL BANK,
CITIZENS' NATIONAL BANK,
BURKE & HERBERT,
W. D. COOKE & CO.
Who will furnish all required information.
jan 30-ly

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HOW TO GET THEM.—Your nearest Bank or Banker will supply these bonds in any desired amount, and of any needed denomination. Persons wishing to exchange stocks or other bonds for these, can do so with any of our agents, who will allow the highest current price for ALL MARKETABLE SECURITIES.
Those living in localities remote from Banks may send money, or other bonds, directly to us by express, and we will send back Northern Pacific bonds at our own risk, and without cost to the investor. For further information, pamphlets, maps, etc., call on or address the undersigned, or any of the Banks or Bankers employed to sell this loan.
FIRST NATIONAL BANK,
CITIZENS' NATIONAL BANK,
BURKE & HERBERT,
W. D. COOKE & CO.
Who will furnish all required information.
jan 30-ly

JOHN H. PARROTT.
DEALER IN
BLANK BOOKS, WRITING AND WRAPPING PAPER, ENVELOPES, INKS, and STATIONERY GENERALLY.
Wholesale and retail. Also PAPER BAGS, FLOUR SACKS, Shipping and Printing Cards, Direction Labels, &c., &c.
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AMTOMES MINCE MEAT, Sweet Cider, Layer Raisins, Prunes, Dried Peaches and Dried Apples, for sale by
J. C. MILBURN.
Jan 7

NEW 7-30 GOLD LOAN.
SAFE! PROFITABLE! PERMANENT!
JAY COOKE & CO.
Offer for sale at par and accrued interest the
FIRST MORTGAGE
LAND GRANT GOLD BONDS
—OF THE—
Northern Pacific Railroad Co.
These bonds are secured, first, by a First Mortgage on the Railroad itself, its rolling stock, and all equipments; second, by a First Mortgage on its entire Land Grant, being more than twenty thousand Acres of Land to each mile of Road.
The Bonds are free from United States tax; the Principal and Interest are payable in Gold—the Principal at the end of Thirty years, and the Interest Semi-annually, at the rate of SEVEN and THREE QUARTS PER CENT. per annum.
They are issued in denominations of \$100, \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000 and \$10,000.
The Trustees under the Mortgage are Messrs Jay Cooke, of Philadelphia, and J. Edgar Thomson, President of the Pennsylvania Central Railroad Company.
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FINEST WAREHOUSES IN THE SOUTH.
WM. H. DE VAUGHN & SON.
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141 and 143 King street,
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A large and fine stock always on hand. Jan 25
FOR GOOD HOME-MADE FURNITURE call on
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IF YOU WANT FURNITURE MADE FOR REPAIR or old Chairs reupholstered, go to
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IF YOU WANT A GOOD AND CHEAP MATTRESS call on
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IF YOU WANT SECOND-HAND FURNITURE go and see
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STEPHEN A. GREEN, — JAMES E. GREEN.
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Steam Furniture Works & Saw Mill,
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Having fitted up our factory with the latest and most approved machinery, we are prepared to furnish all kinds of HOUSE, OFFICE and SCHOOL FURNITURE at the very lowest rates; and are also prepared to do all kinds of SAWING, TURNING, MOULDING, PLANING and CARVING in our line.
Wanted, in exchange for Furniture, Walnut, Poplar, Oak, Maple, Birch and Cedar Logs.
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JAMES H. DE VAUGHN.
No. 130 King street,
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Manufacturer and Dealer in
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Looking Glasses, Hair, Cotton Towels and Thick Mattresses, kept constantly on hand and made to order at reasonable prices.
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J. W. NALLS, — R. F. PRAKE.
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Dealers in HARDWARE, CUTLERY, Carpenters' Tools, Doors, Sash, Blinds, Door and Window Frames, Mouldings, Balusters, of different patterns, and Newel Posts. A large stock of French and American Glass, double and single thick, of all sizes. Paints, Oils, Varnishes, Putty and White Wash Brushes, Lewis' Pure White Lead, and other brands of fine quality Putty, Turpentine and Machine Oil. Also, Lime, of superior quality. Cement, Calced Plaster, Pitch and Felt for Roofing, &c. A large stock of Pugh's celebrated Car Augers, and other articles found in first class Builders' Furnishing establishments.
All orders for Lumber, Brick and all kinds of Building Material, promptly attended to.
Terms cash.
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